



NFMA Forest Plan Prototype



Charting a New Path

Making Planning More Workable and More Relevant

- Reduce the size of plans, use a business model
- Work with the public
- Incorporate science
- Emphasize broad, strategic nature of planning
- Set context for project development
- Provide for adaptive changes and faster updates
- More clearly communicate intentions
- Use the power of the web



Why Do Something Different?

- First round took >10 years and cost >\$200mm
- Increase relevance and utility

Elements of a Strategic Model

Mission

Vision

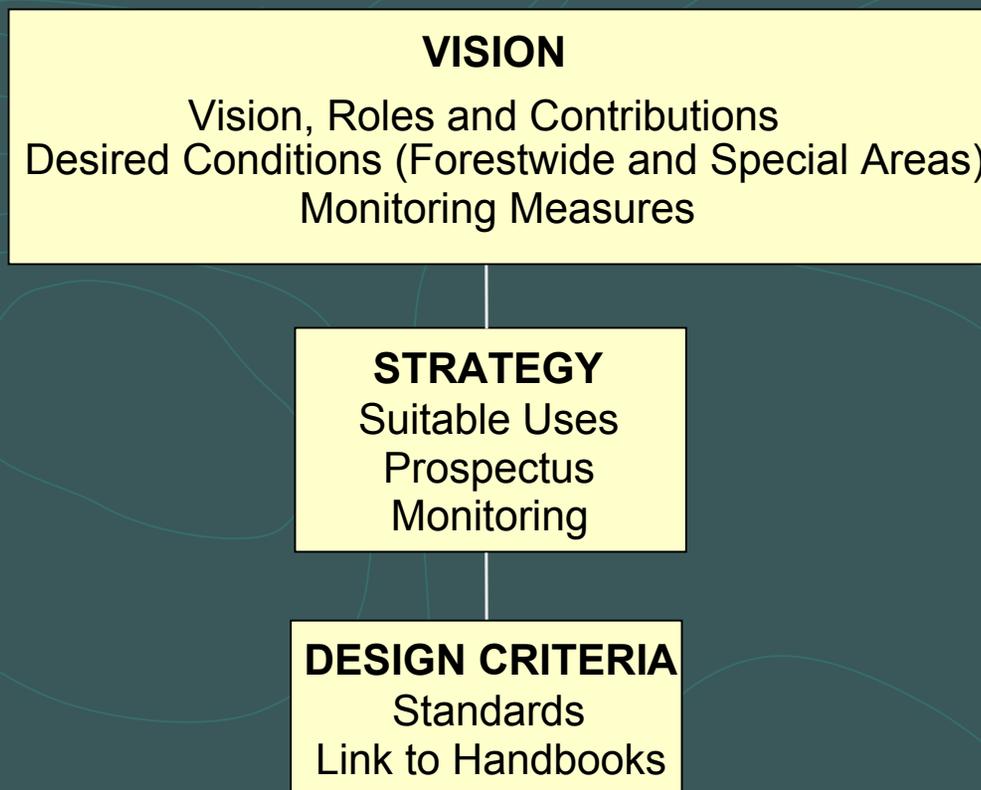
Strategy

Tactics

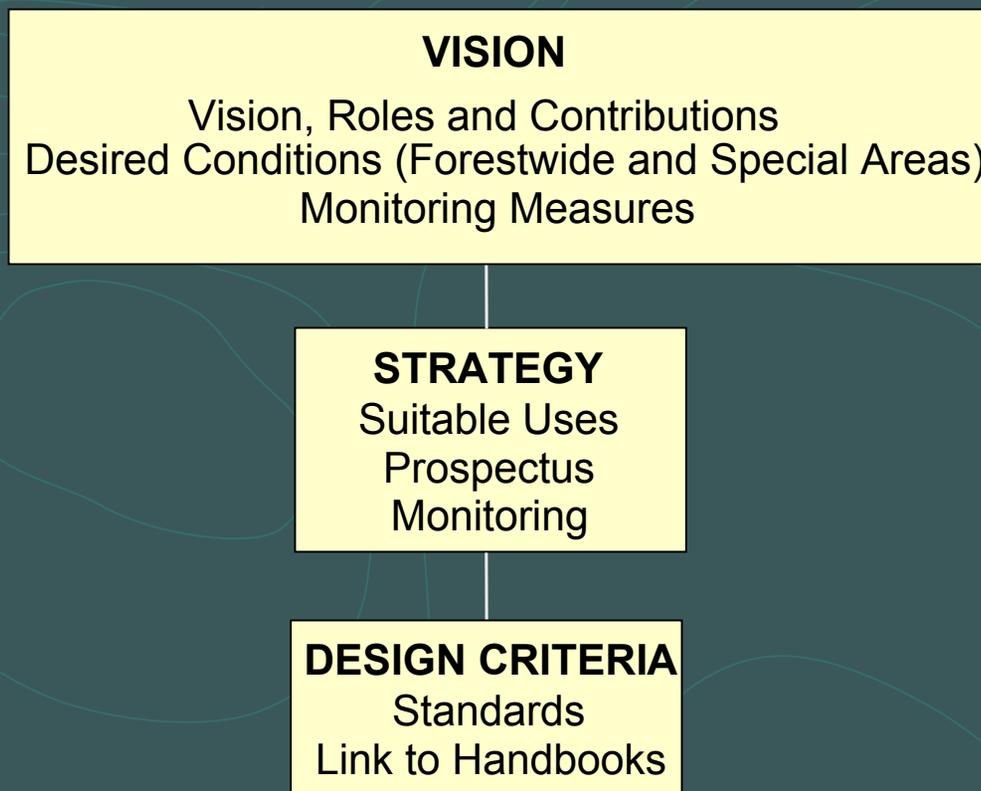
Projects

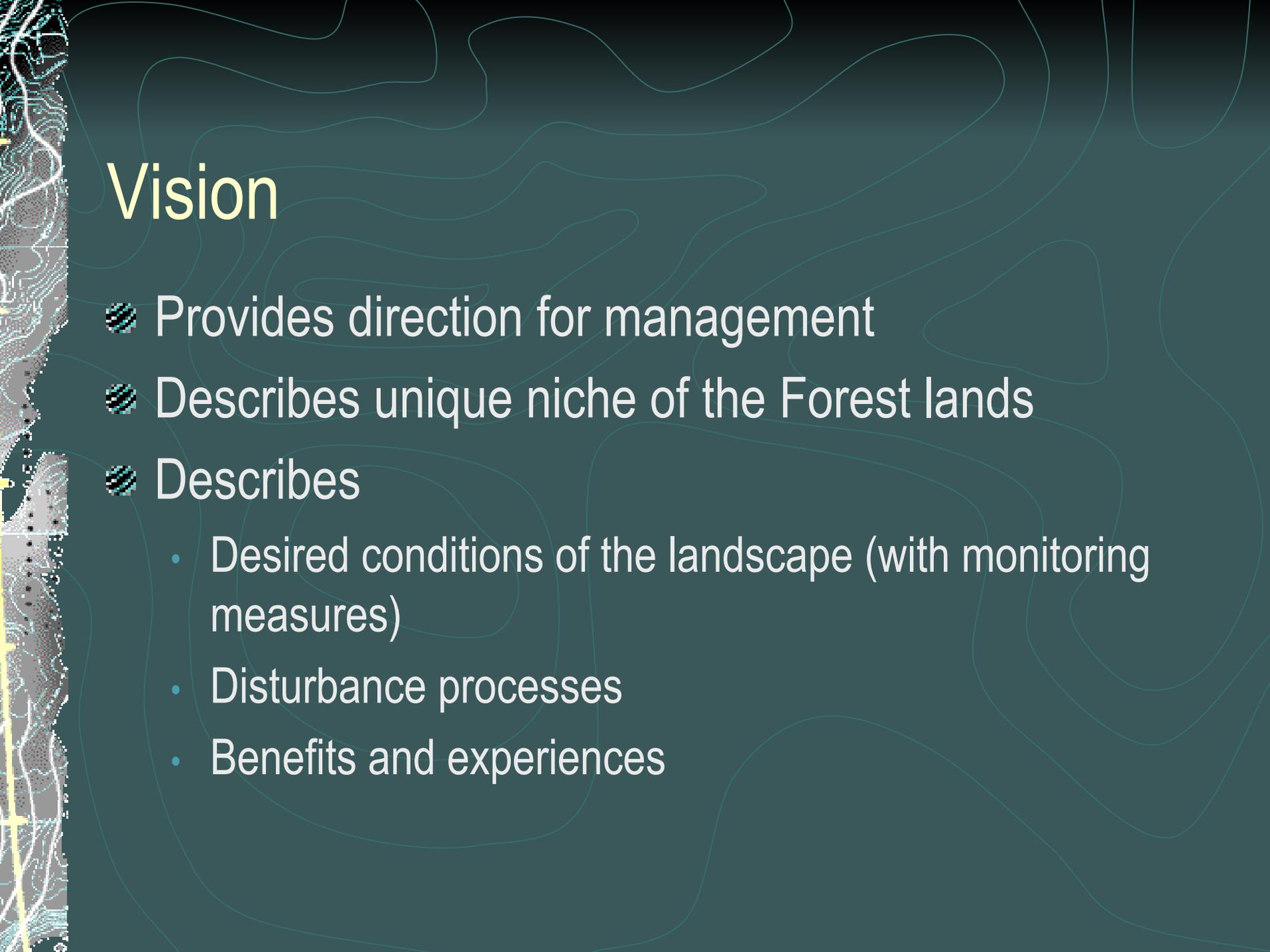


Forest Planning Prototype



Forest Planning Prototype





Vision

- Provides direction for management
- Describes unique niche of the Forest lands
- Describes
 - Desired conditions of the landscape (with monitoring measures)
 - Disturbance processes
 - Benefits and experiences



Forest Roles, Contributions and Challenges

- Distinctive roles and contributions: “Longest stretch of publicly owned riparian habitat in Kansas”
- Management challenge: “Salt cedar invasion”
- Roles and contributions: “Contributes to livestock production industry”
- Management Challenge: “Increasing groundwater withdrawals”

Forestwide Desired Condition:

Ponderosa pine will be managed to emulate conditions representative of a nonlethal understory fire regime.



Evaluation question:

How closely do actual stand conditions emulate the desired fire regime?

Monitoring measure:

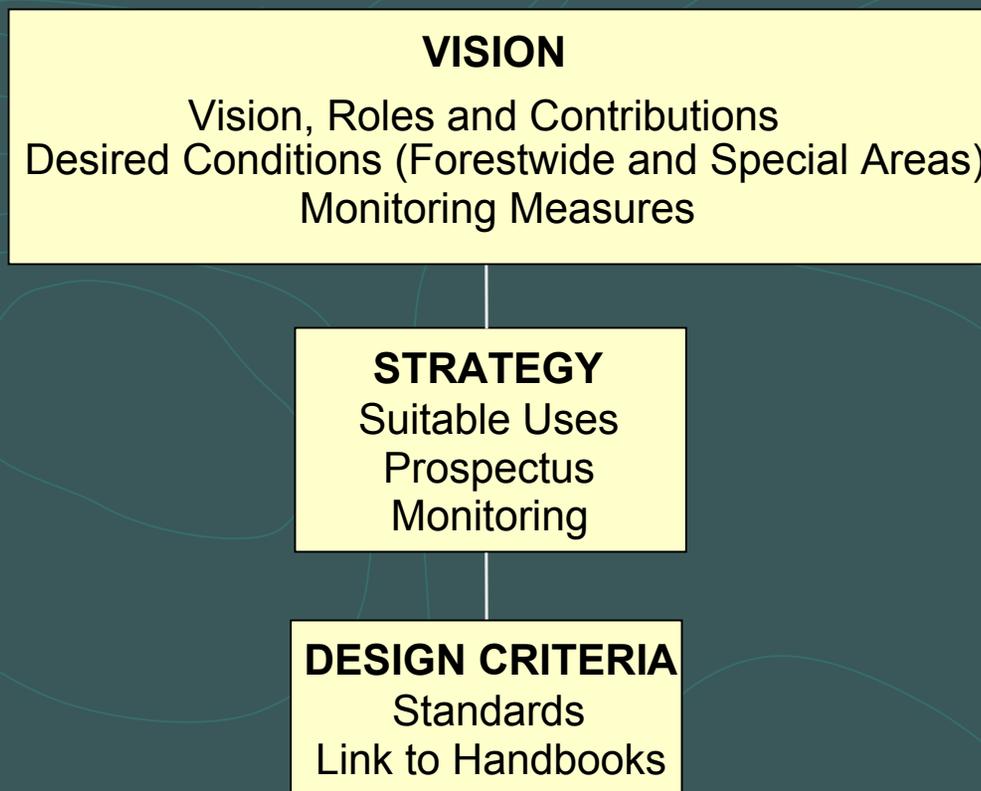
Acres in each basal area size class;
Average tons/acre of understory fuel



Vision Development

- Collaboratively developed
- One vision, but broad and inclusive
- Not choosing among discrete alternatives
- Choices consistent with shared values
- Look for refinements to improve a proposal from public or partners
- Comment period, objection process
- Long-term (10-20 years)

Forest Planning Prototype





Strategy

- How we intend to move toward desired conditions (alternatives)
- Describes suitable uses
- Recommendations for new special area designations
- Prospectus
 - Key objectives
 - Monitoring measures
 - History
 - Performance risks

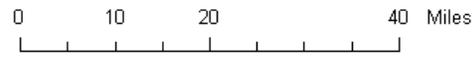
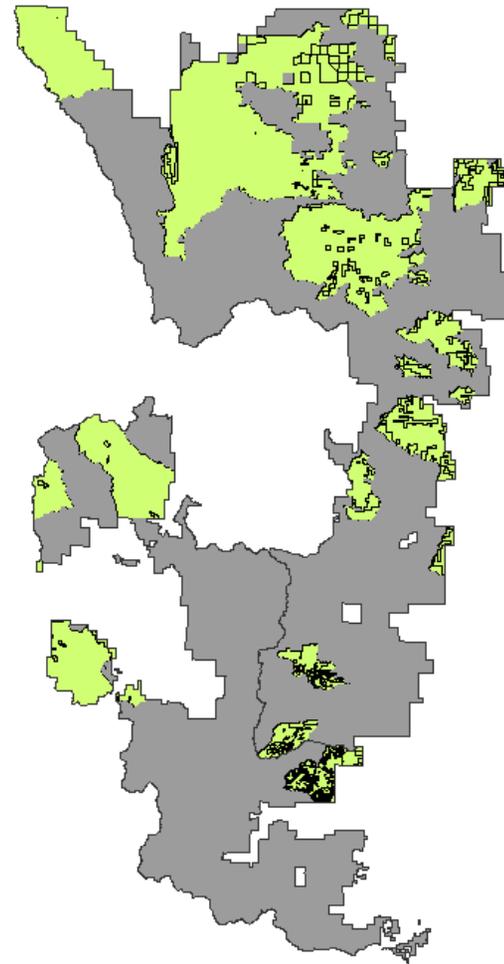
Suitable Uses by Land Class Zones

Use	Special Designation	Ecol. Process Emphasis	Renewable Resource Use Emphasis	Primary Recreation Emphasis	Ecological/ Residential Interface	Developed Areas
Timber Harvest	Not Suitable	Not Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable
Livestock Grazing	Not Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable
Summer Motorized Recreation	Not Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable
Summer Non-Motorized Recreation	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable
Oil and Gas Dvlpmnt	Not Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable

Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest

Legend

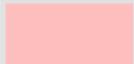
GRAZING

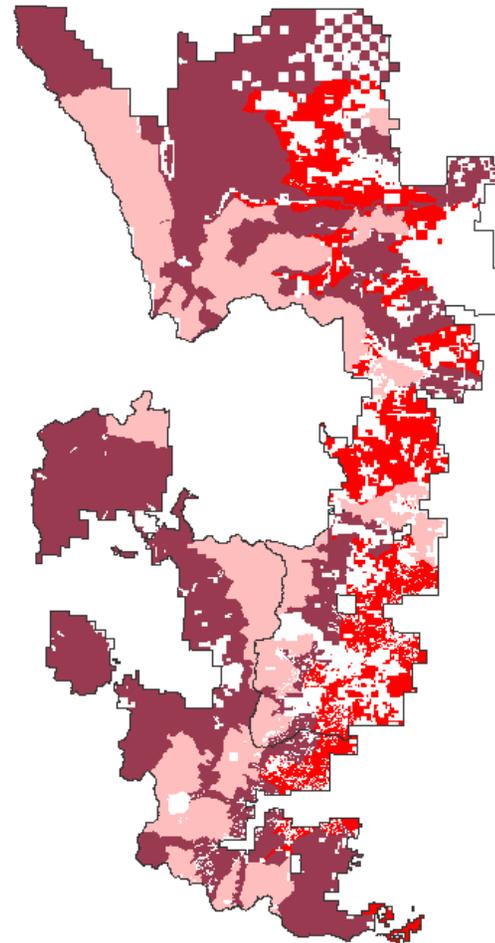


**Arapaho Roosevelt
National Forest**

Legend

Fire Strategy

-  Direct Control
-  Perimeter Control
-  Prescription Control

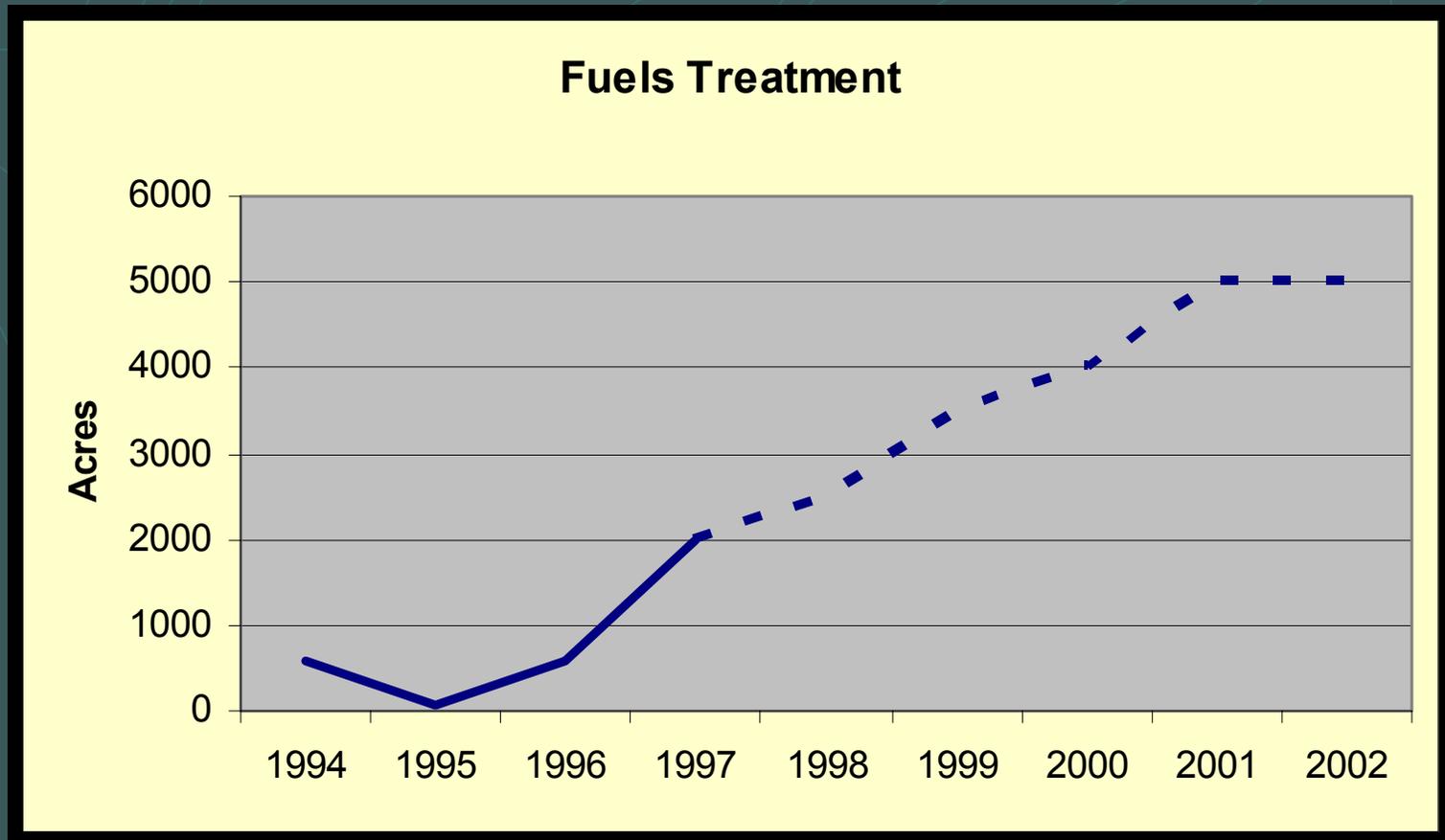


Prospectus

- Performance history (summary of outputs, trends, etc.)
- Program priorities
- Program objectives
- Implementation performance risks

Program Objective: Fuel Reduction

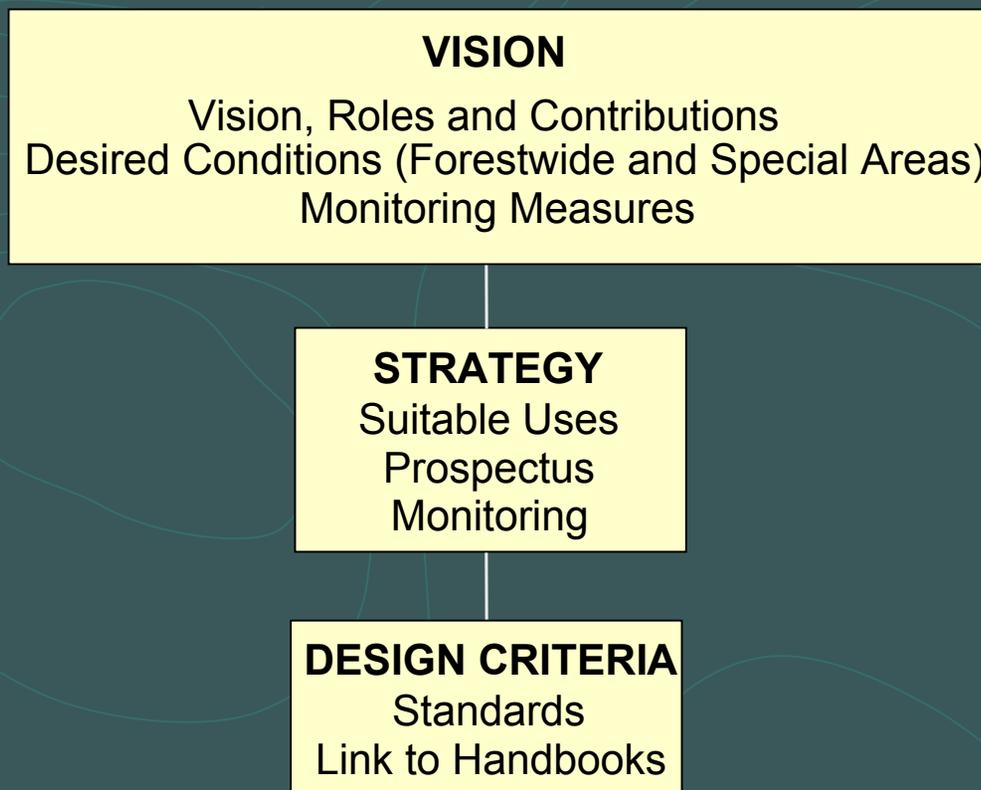
The number of high risk/high value, and high and moderate risk acres will be reduced. Both mechanical and prescribed fire treatments may be used.



Strategy Development

- Vision as context
- Design Criteria as reference
- Appropriate NEPA
- Frequent review and (minor) changes to adapt and adjust course
- Short term (3-5 years)

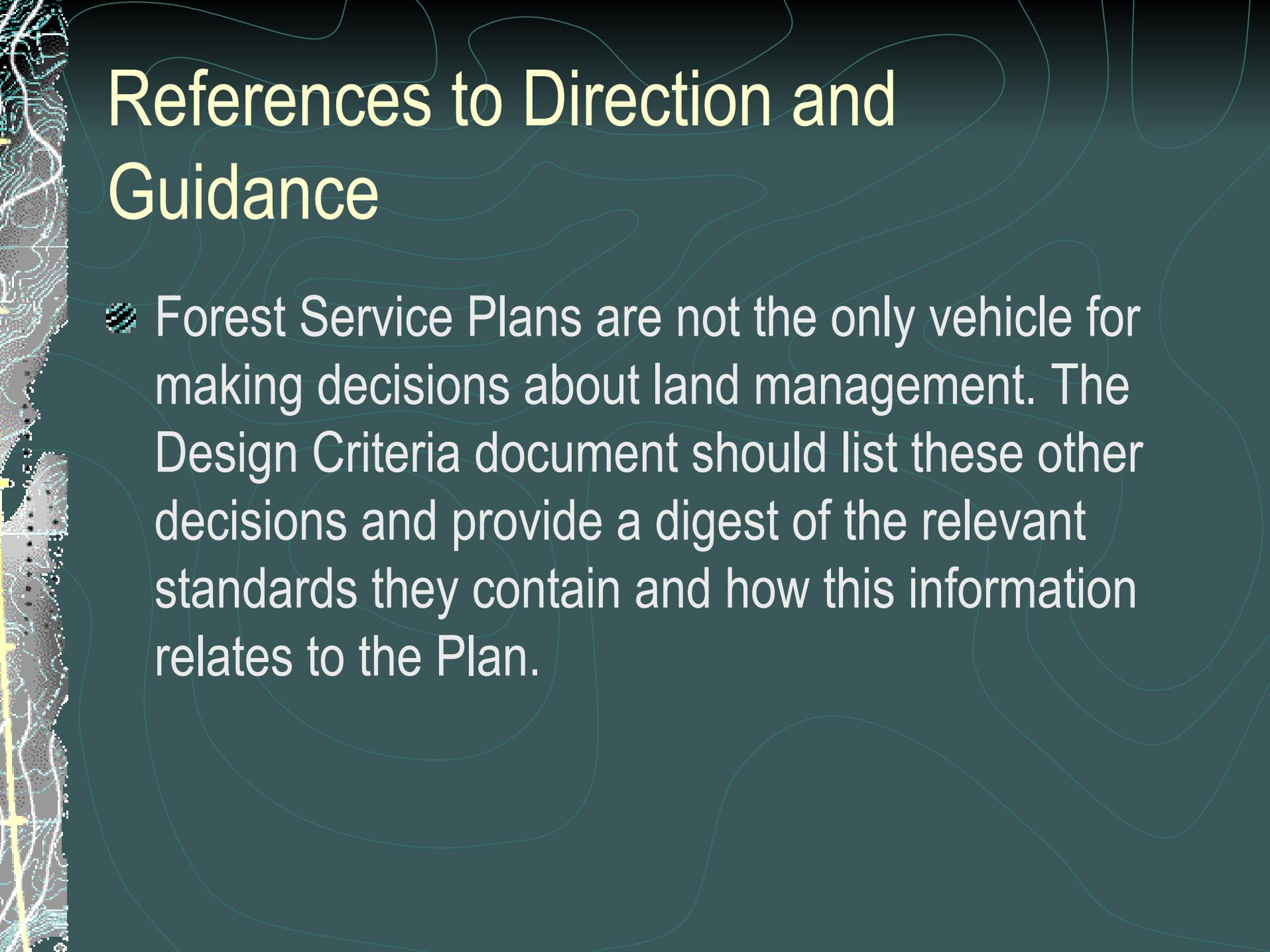
Forest Planning Prototype





Standards

- Limitations applicable to land uses and management actions
- Example: Exclude human activity in key elk-calving areas during a minimum period of May 15 to June 15.



References to Direction and Guidance

- Forest Service Plans are not the only vehicle for making decisions about land management. The Design Criteria document should list these other decisions and provide a digest of the relevant standards they contain and how this information relates to the Plan.

Examples of Other Sources of Design Criteria

- Oil and gas leasing standard stipulations
- USFWS recovery plans for T&E species
- Special use permit standard clauses
- Mineral operations permits
- Regional best management practices handbooks



Design Criteria Development

- Regional, sub-Regional or Forest
- Science consistency
- Notice and comment
- Objection process
- Change based on new science or monitoring (5-15 years)



Monitoring

- Monitoring of each plan component will lead to adaptive changes
- Adapting to contingencies makes more sense than trying to make perfect predictions of environmental effects

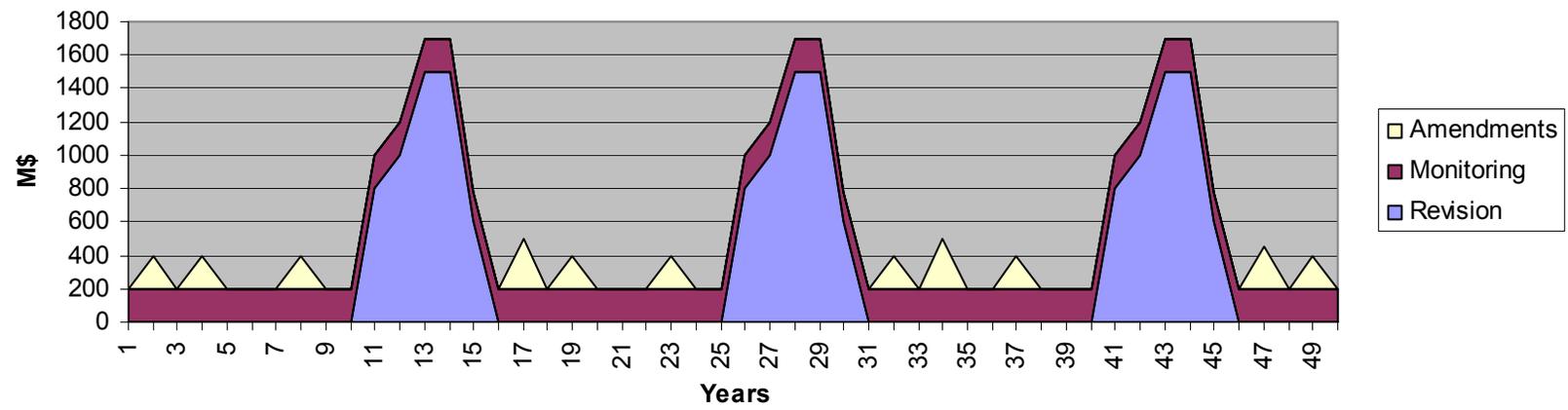


**Desired
Condition**

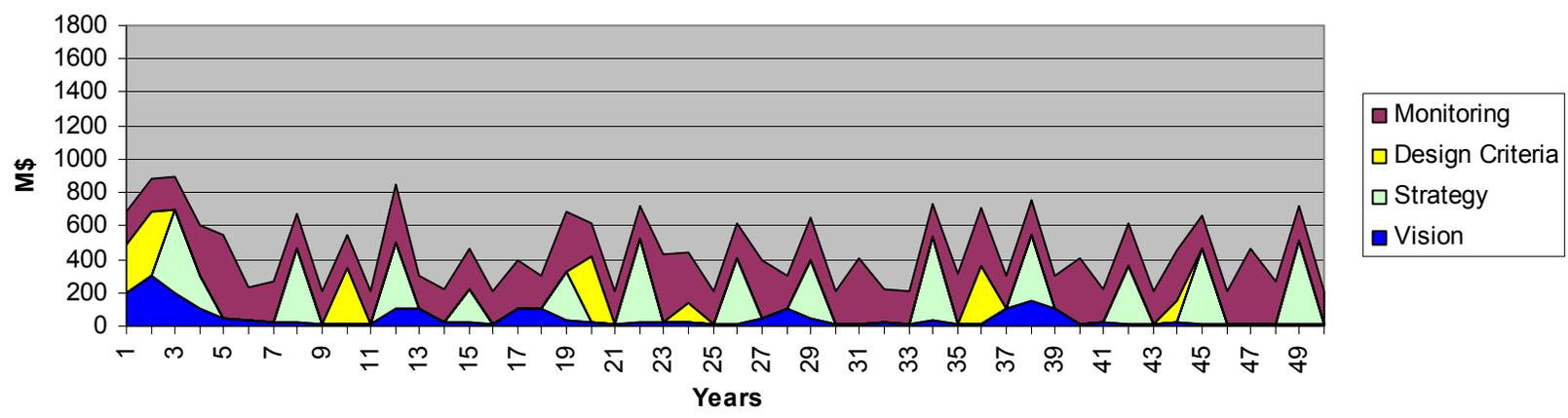


Alternative Strategies

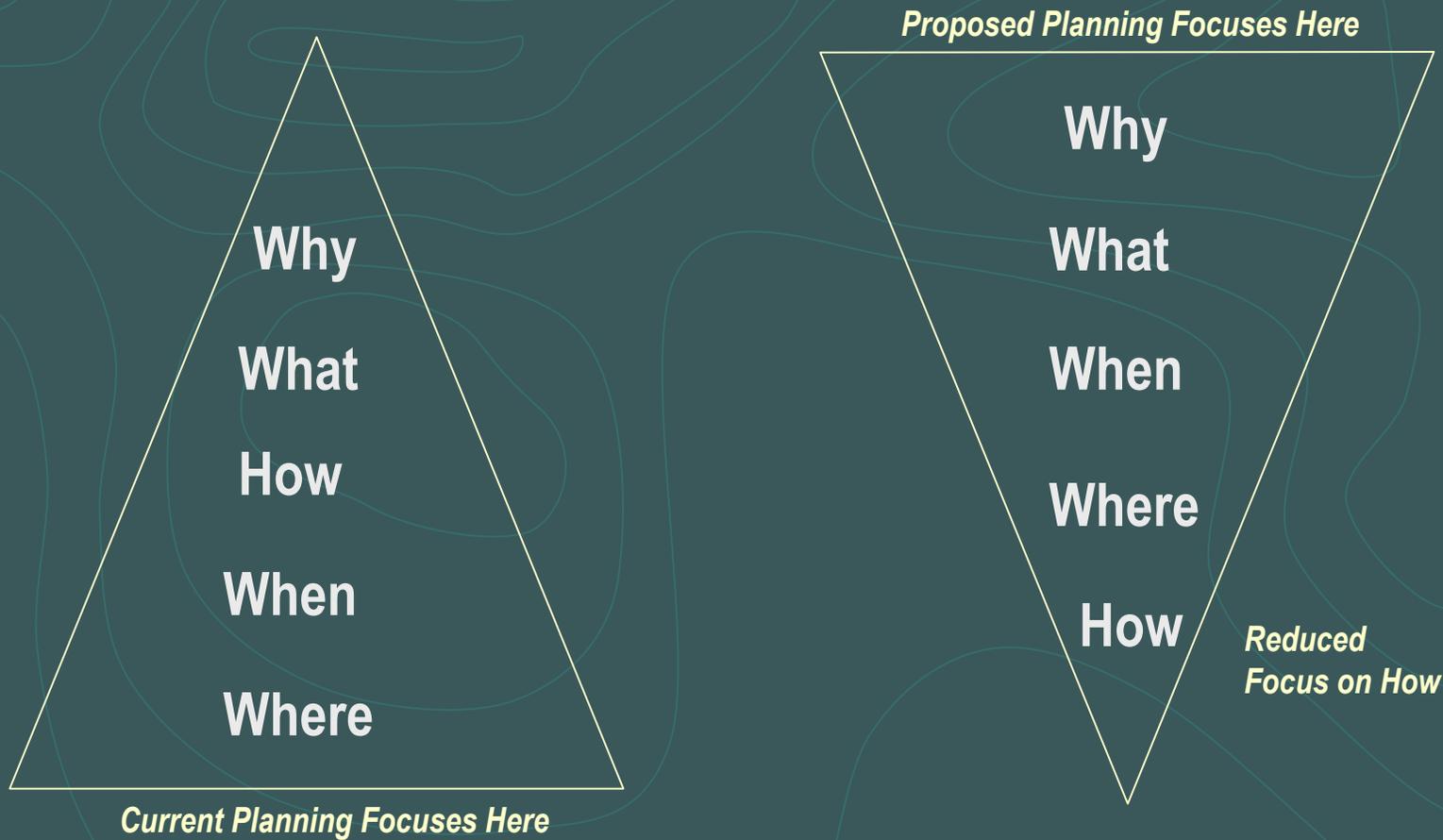
Current Situation (\$30 million over 50 years)



Proposed Rule (\$22 million over 50 years)



Changing Role of Forest Plans: From R1/R4 Forest Planning Framework





How do we start?

- Put current plan into new format
- Find out where we have missing parts (helps identify need for change)
- Work with publics & partners to craft a vision or verify the vision in current plan
- Review design criteria (standards) to guide design of activities
- Develop strategies to reach desired conditions (with necessary analysis)